



MARINER'S UPDATE

COMPLIANCE WITH SIMPLICITY

NEW PILOT TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 2028

Key Regulatory Changes for Pilot Ladders and Transfer Arrangements

SAFE
TRANSFER
SAFER PEOPLE
SAFER OPERATIONS



PILOT LADDER 2028

Key Points — Mandatory Changes for Pilot Transfer Arrangements



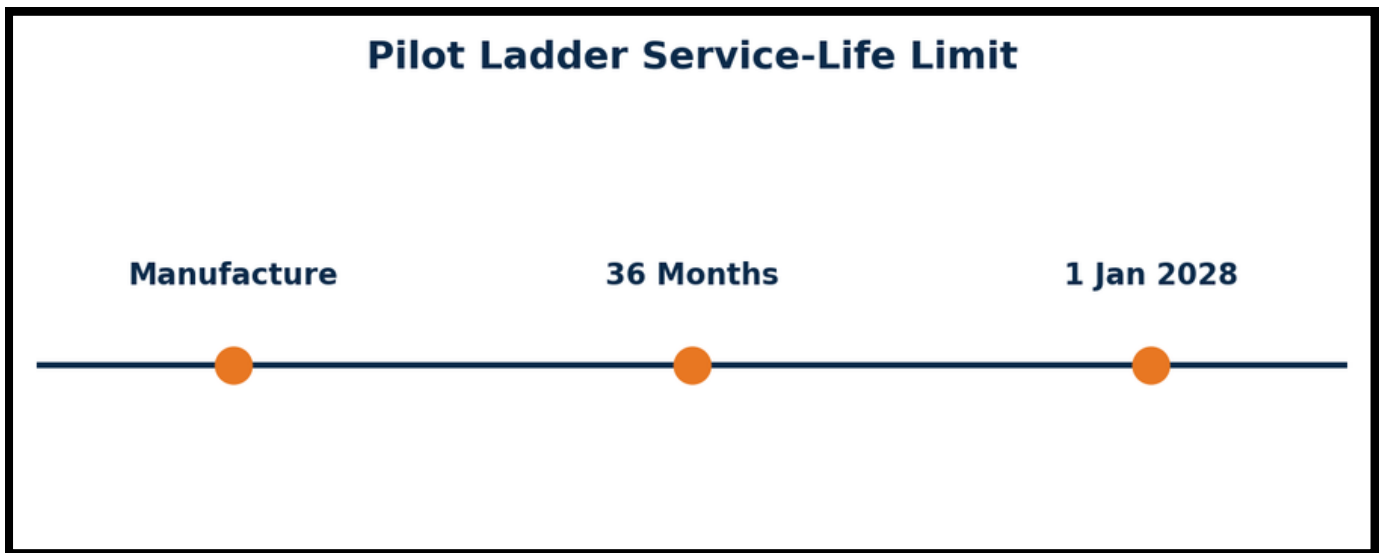
NEED TO KNOW

A set of mandatory changes to pilot ladder service life, equipment, rigging, and structural design comes into force from **1 January 2028**. Ship owners, managers, and designers should plan modifications and procurement early.

Service Life and Spare Equipment Controls

- **36-Month Maximum Lifespan:** Pilot ladders and manropes must be permanently removed from service within 36 months from their manufacture date, or 30 months after being placed into service, whichever occurs first.
- **No Extensions via Testing:** Undergoing periodic physical strength testing will no longer be permitted to extend a ladder's service life past the strict 36-month limit.
- **Mandatory Spares:** Ships are legally required to carry at least one compliant spare pilot ladder and a spare set of manropes on board.
- **No Individual Step Repairs:** Damaged steps or spreaders can no longer be individually replaced. If any part of the ladder is compromised, the entire unit must be replaced.



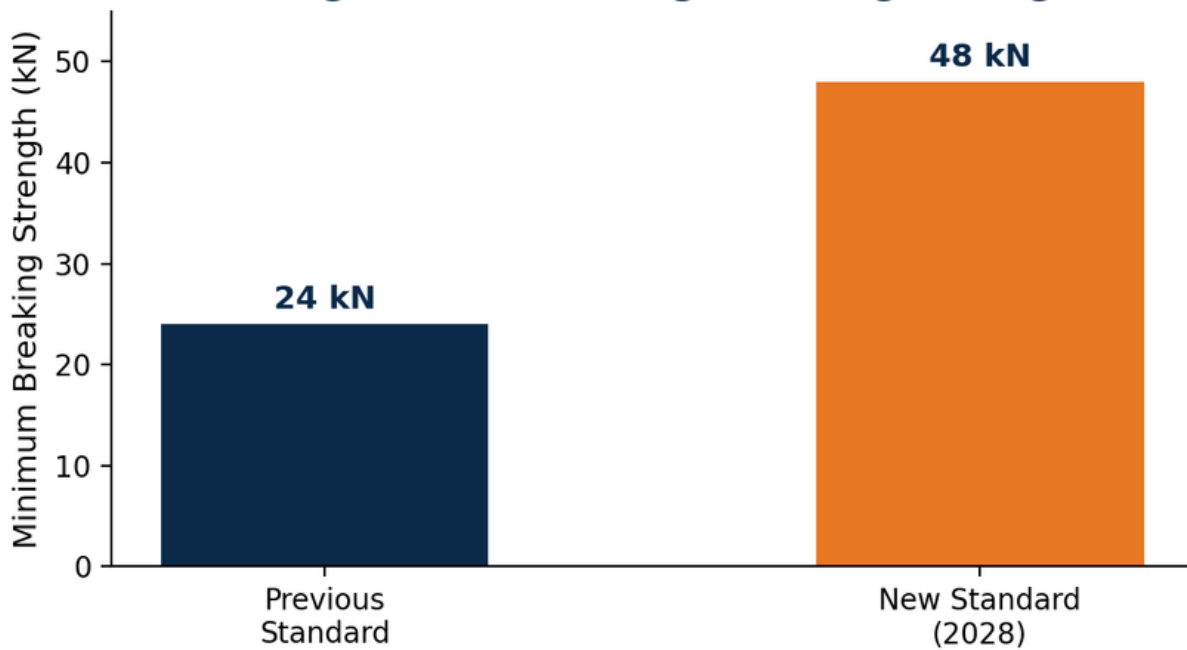


Mechanical and Structural Design Changes

- **Banned Equipment:** The use of mechanical pilot hoists is completely prohibited.
- **Rigging Restrictions:** Pilot ladders can no longer be rigged from the deckhead. They must be secured on the lowest deck within the ship's side opening or deck edge.
- **Enhanced Breaking Strength:** Strong points, shackles, and intermediate securing ropes must now feature a minimum breaking strength of 48 kilonewtons (kN), doubling the previous 24 kN standard.
- **Intermediate Securing Methods:** Securing ladders at intermediate lengths using standard deck shackles is phased out. Operators must use type-approved intermediate securing devices supplied by the manufacturer rated to 48 kN.
- **Reduced Spreader Frequency:** The maximum number of steps allowed between long spreader steps is reduced from nine down to eight.



Strong Point / Securing Breaking Strength



Installation and Trapdoor Standards

- **Trapdoor Alignment:** Aligning with ISO 799-3 standards, combination arrangements utilizing a platform trapdoor must allow the pilot ladder and manropes to pass directly through the trapdoor and extend at least 2 metres above the platform. The ladder must rest firmly against the ship's side.
- **Rigid Two-Tone Marking:** For combination arrangements, ships must feature a 4-metre high by 0.5-metre wide white and red visual mark on the hull. The dividing line must sit exactly 9 metres below the point of access to help pilots visually confirm boarding heights.

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